

From: [Carlos Sanchez](#)
To: Snehal.Patel@cao.hctx.net
Cc: [David Gray](#)
Subject: Re: San Jacinto Waste Pits
Date: 07/06/2011 06:09 PM

Sorry for the my misunderstanding Snehal.

The part that that I was referring to was the visit involving Congressman Greene. I just wanted to make sure that EPA's External Affairs office was aware of that. As far as the press release, you are following the protocol that as developed for the site.

I am glad the visit went well and look forward to continue the good working relation we have with you and the District Attorney's office.

Carlos A. Sanchez
Chief, AR/TX Section
Region 6, Superfund Division (6SF-RA)
sanchez.carlos@epa.gov
(214) 665-8507

-----"Patel, Snehal (CAO)" <Snehal.Patel@cao.hctx.net> wrote: -----

To: David Gray/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Carlos Sanchez/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
From: "Patel, Snehal (CAO)" <Snehal.Patel@cao.hctx.net>
Date: 07/06/2011 05:32PM
Subject: San Jacinto Waste Pits

I just wanted to write and clear up any misunderstandings. Carlos, I have not had the chance to call back after our conversation because of being at the site and then an emergency issue came up that I needed to focus on.

As is the protocol developed to-date by both our entities, my contact when it comes to press releases is Donn Walters. I coordinate with Donn and do not press releases out unless he has seen the press release and EPA is given the opportunity to comment. In this case, as soon as I was given the direction by my county attorney, last Friday, I forwarded the press release to Donn and Val (see below). Donn wrote back yesterday with no comments or opposition except that he will update your media office. Only then did we move forward with the press release. Carlos said I should have gone through the external affairs office but that is a completely new process (and as you see below, Donn is the liaison and he contacted the media office). If you have a change in how you would like this handled, please let me know.

Also, when I was first asked to coordinate this by my office last Thursday, I told my office that we could not go ahead without EPA's approval. I called Valmichael Leos, project manager over TCRA to get his approval to get on the site and also to check on his availability. I also let Val know of who would be invited (elected officials and media). I did get that confirmed with Valmichael on Thursday by phone. Only then, did we begin the planning for it. That was for today's event.

On Monday, I heard that Congressman Greene wanted to visit the site on Tuesday. We made no promises until I got a hold of Valmichael on Tuesday morning who gave us his go-ahead. At that time, I called the Congressman's aide to confirm. I then coordinated with Barbara Nann and Valmichael Leos who answered my questions and gave me a briefing on the latest which I shared with the congressman.

We understand completely that you all are in charge of this project and we believe that coordination was followed with established process between us. We have developed a great working relationship and have achieved a lot together.

If you would like to change any of the process, we would be happy to do so.

The site visits were very positive and we were very clear that EPA was spearheading this and the County Attorney's intent was to applaud the EPA for work well done.

Best wishes,

Snehal

From: Donn Walters [mailto:Walters.Donn@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2011 8:51 AM
To: Patel, Snehal (CAO)
Cc: Valmichael Leos
Subject: Re: Event for Wednesday - draft press release attached

Thanks, I'll update our media office...

From: "Patel, Snehal (CAO)" <Snehal.Patel@cao.hctx.net>
To: Donn Walters/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Valmichael Leos/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 07/01/2011 02:12 PM
Subject: Event for Wednesday - draft press release attached

Val and Donn,

Val - Thanks for working me with this. Attached is the draft press release. As is the protocol, I am sharing with you prior and we are planning on sending it out first thing Tuesday.

Val, we look forward to seeing you on Wednesday. Locally, we are inviting Cong. Greene, County Judge Emmett, Cmmr. Morman, and Mayor of Baytown Don Carlos.

Thanks again and if you have any comments, please let me know asap.

Thanks,

Snehal[attachment "Pressrelease752011.doc" deleted by Donn Walters/R6/USEPA/US]